

United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

Determination of NEPA Adequacy
DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2016-0123 DNA

March 2016

Special Recreation Permit for Museum of Western Colorado

Location: designated trails and sites within the Moab and Monticello Field Offices – Moab: Corral Canyon, the intersection of Highways 313 and 191, Courthouse Wash, Highway 279, Kane Creek Road, Kane Springs Canyon, Poison Spider Trailhead, Highway 128, Long Valley, Copper Ridge Sauropod Track, Mill Canyon Dinosaur Trail, Westwater area, Cisco Area and Sego Canyon. Monticello: Hart Point Cliffs and Shay Canyon. Mill Canyon Tracksite. All sites are depicted in detail on the map provided with the permit application.

Applicant/Address: Jen McCollough, P.O. Box 20,000, Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-5020

Moab Field Office
82 East Dogwood
Moab, Utah 84532
Phone: 435-259-2100
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Worksheet

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

U.S. Department of the Interior
Utah Bureau of Land Management

The signed CONCLUSION at the end of this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal analysis process and does not constitute an appealable decision; however, it constitutes an administrative record to be provided as evidence in protest, appeals and legal procedures.

OFFICE: Moab and Monticello Field Offices

PROJECT NUMBER: MFO-Y010-16-077R

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE: Special Recreation Permit for Museum of Western Colorado

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Designated trails and sites within the Moab and Monticello Field Offices – Moab: Corral Canyon, the intersection of Highways 313 and 191, Courthouse Wash, Highway 279, Kane Creek Road, Kane Springs Canyon, Poison Spider Trailhead, Highway 128, Long Valley, Yellowcat, Little Valley, Copper Ridge Sauropod Track, Mill Canyon Dinosaur Trail, Southwest Floy Junction, Little Grand Wash, Salt Wash, Bitter Creek Canyon, Westwater area, Cisco Area and Sego Canyon. Monticello: Hart Point Cliffs and Shay Canyon. Mill Canyon Track Site. All sites are depicted in detail on the map provided with the permit application.

APPLICANT: Jan McCollough, P.O. Box 20,000, Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-5020

A. Description of the Proposed Action and Any Applicable Mitigation Measures:

Jan McCollough, on behalf of Museum of Western Colorado, has requested authorization through a renewed commercial Special Recreation Permit (SRP) to conduct a commercial guiding service on designated trails and sites in the Moab and Monticello Field Offices. All use would be day use only and any camping would occur in designated BLM campgrounds. Maximum group size would be 24 clients with a staff to client ratio of 12:1. The company will also obtain the current and valid permits required to conduct paleontological digs prior to this activity. The Museum of Western Colorado has held an SRP with the Moab and Monticello Field Offices for one year. National and State Standard stipulations as well as all supplemental stipulations from the Moab Field Office will apply.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name* Moab Resource Management Plan

Date Approved October, 2008

*List applicable LUPs (for example, resource management plans; activity, project, management or program plans; or applicable amendments thereto).

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

Page 97 of the Moab RMP reads as follows: "Special Recreation Permits are issued as a discretionary action as a means to: help meet management objectives, provide opportunities for economic activity, facilitate recreational use of public lands, control visitor use, protect recreational and natural resources, and provide for the health and safety of visitors." In addition, on page 98 of the Moab RMP, it states, "All SRPs will contain standard stipulations appropriate for the type of activity and may include stipulations necessary to protect lands or resources, reduce user conflicts, or minimize health and safety concerns....Issue and manage recreation permits for a wide variety of uses to enhance outdoor recreational opportunities, provide opportunities for private enterprise, manage user-group interaction, and limit the impacts to such uses upon natural and cultural resources."

The Moab Resource Management Plan (RMP), Final Environmental Impact Statement, signed October 31, 2008, identified lands with wilderness characteristics. The proposed use includes areas within lands with wilderness characteristics three of which are being managed as Natural Areas. Other lands within the proposal, although identified as possessing wilderness characteristics are not being managed as such. The proposed activity would not result in any changes in the impacts that were analyzed in the FEIS for the RMP.

C. Identify the applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-UT-060-2009-0066, Special Recreation Permit and Paleontological Excavation Permit for Museum of Western Colorado, signed in June of 2009 cover the majority of the activities considered in the proposed action.

Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-UT-2013-0063, SRP Amendment for Museum of Western Colorado, signed on February 1, 2013 covers the Mill Canyon Tracksite location.

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The existing NEPA documents address the impacts of permitted organized and guided paleontological trips within the Moab and Monticello Field Offices. The exact locations are covered.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action (or existing proposed action), given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

☒ Yes
☐ No

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Environmental Assessments DOI-BLM-UT-060-2009-0066 and DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2013-0063 contain analysis of the proposed action and a no action alternative. The environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances have not changed to a degree that warrants broader consideration.

3. Is existing analysis adequate in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standards assessment; recent endangered species listings, updated list of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

☒ Yes
☐ No

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The existing analysis and conclusions are adequate as there has been no new information or circumstances presented. It can be reasonably concluded that all new information and circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

☒ Yes
☐ No

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The direct and indirect impacts are substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA documents. Yes; site-specific impacts analyzed in the existing document are the same as those associated with the current proposed action.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

☒ Yes
☐ No

The public was notified of the preparation of Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-UT-060-2009-0066, it was posted on the ENBB on July 13, 2009. This level of involvement and notification is adequate for the current proposed action. The public was notified of the preparation of EA DOI BLM UT Y010-2013-0063 when it was posted on the ENBB on January 24, 2013. This level of involvement and notification is adequate for the current proposed action.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource Represented</u>
Ann Marie Aubry	Hydrologist/ Natural Resource Specialist	Air quality, Water quality, Floodplains
Mark Grover	Ecologist	Wetlands/Riparian Zones
Katie Stevens	Recreation Planner	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Visual Resources, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Recreation
Jared Lundell	Archaeologist	Cultural resources, Native American Religious Concerns
Jordan Davis	Range Management Specialist	Invasive Species, Woodland
David Pals	Natural Resource Specialist	Geology, Hazardous materials
David Williams	Range Management Specialist	Livestock Grazing, RHS, Vegetation, T&E plant species
Pam Riddle	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate animal species; Fish and wildlife
Bill Stevens	Recreation Planner	Wilderness, Socioeconomics, Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, Natural Areas, Environmental Justice
ReBecca Hunt Foster	Paleontology Coordinator	Paleontological Resources,

CONCLUSION**Plan Conformance:**

- ☒ This proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan.
- ☐ This proposal does not conform to the applicable land use plan

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

- ☒ Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.
- ☐ The existing NEPA documentation does not fully cover the proposed action. Additional NEPA documentation is needed if the project is to be further considered.

Signature of Project Lead

K C Stevens

Date

3/15/16

Signature of NEPA Coordinator

K C Stevens

Date

3/15/16

Signature of the Responsible Official

Jennifer Jones

Date

3/21/16

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

ATTACHMENTS:

ID Team Checklist

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST

Project Title: Special Recreation Permit Renewal for Museum of Western Colorado

NEPA Log Number: DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2016-0123 DNA

File/Serial Number: MFO-Y010-16-077R

Project Leader: Katie Stevens

DETERMINATION OF STAFF: (Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form. The Rationale column may include NI and NP discussions.

The following elements are not present in the Moab Field Office and have been removed from the checklist:
Farmlands (Prime or Unique), Wild Horses and Burros.

Determi- nation	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)				
NC	Air Quality Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Ann Marie Aubry <i>Ann M</i>	3/16/16
NC	Floodplains		Ann Marie Aubry <i>Mark Grover</i>	
NC	Soils		Ann Marie Aubry <i>Ann M</i>	3/16/16
NC	Water Resources/Quality (drinking/surface/ground)		Ann Marie Aubry <i>Ann Marie Aubry</i>	3/16/16
NC	Wetlands/Riparian Zones		Mark Grover <i>Mark Grover</i>	3/17/16
NC	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern		Katie Stevens <i>KS</i>	3/11/16
NC	Recreation		Katie Stevens <i>KS</i>	3/11/16
NC	Wild and Scenic Rivers		Katie Stevens <i>KS</i>	3/11/16
NC	Visual Resources		Katie Stevens <i>KS</i>	3/11/16
NC	Wild Lands (BLM Natural Areas)		Bill Stevens <i>BS</i>	3/4/16
NC	Socio-Economics		Bill Stevens <i>BS</i>	3/4/16
NC	Wilderness/WSA		Bill Stevens <i>BS</i>	3/4/16
NC	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics		Bill Stevens <i>BS</i>	3/16/16
NC	Cultural Resources	<i>SRP Ettigutte guide include</i>	Jared Lundell <i>JL</i>	3-16-16
NC	Native American Religious Concerns	<i>ll</i>	Jared Lundell <i>JL</i>	3-16-16
NC	Environmental Justice		Bill Stevens <i>BS</i>	3/11/16

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
NC	Wastes (hazardous or solid)		David Pals <i>DP</i>	3/16/16
NC	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species		Pam Riddle <i>PR</i>	3/16/16
NC	Migratory Birds		Pam Riddle <i>PR</i>	3/16/16
NC	Utah BLM Sensitive Species		Pam Riddle <i>PR</i>	3/16/16
NC	Fish and Wildlife Excluding USFW Designated Species		Pam Riddle <i>PR</i>	3/16/16
NC	Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds		Dave Williams <i>DW</i>	3/16/16
NC	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species		Dave Williams <i>DW</i>	3/16/16
NC	Livestock Grazing		Dave Williams/ Jordan Davis/ Kim Allison <i>DW</i>	3/16/16
NC	Rangeland Health Standards		Dave Williams/ Jordan Davis/ Kim Allison <i>DW</i>	3/16/16
NC	Vegetation Excluding USFW Designated Species		D Williams <i>DW</i>	3/16/16
NC	Woodland / Forestry		Jordan Davis <i>JD</i>	3/16/16
NC	Fuels/Fire Management		Josh Relph <i>JR</i>	3/16/16
NC	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production		David Pals <i>DP</i>	3/16/16
NC	Lands/Access		Jan Denney <i>JD</i>	3/16/16
NC	Paleontology	Must stay on trail/boardwalk @ Mill Canyon Dinosaur Tracksite	ReBecca Hunt-Foster <i>RHF</i>	3/16/16

FINAL REVIEW:

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	Katie Stevens <i>KS</i>	3/21/16	
Authorized Officer	J.L. Jones <i>JLJ</i>	3/21/16	

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
AND
DECISION RECORD**

**Museum of Western Colorado Commercial Paleontological Guiding and Excavation
DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2016-0123 DNA**

FONSI: Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the present document, I have determined that the action will not have a significant effect on the human environment and an environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

DECISION: It is my decision to issue this Special Recreation Permit to Museum of Western Colorado for commercial Paleontological Guiding and Excavation in the areas listed under the Proposed Action. This decision is contingent upon meeting all stipulations and monitoring requirements attached.

RATIONALE: The decision to authorize the Special Recreation Permit for Museum of Western Colorado has been made in consideration of the environmental impacts of the proposed action. The action is in conformance with the Moab Resource Management Plan, which allows for recreation use permits for a wide variety of uses to enhance outdoor recreational opportunities, provide opportunities for private enterprise, manage user-group interaction, and limit the impacts to such uses upon natural and cultural resources.

APPEALS:

The decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. Public notification of this decision will be considered to have occurred on March 17, 2016. Within 30 days of this decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at the Moab Field Office, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

Authorized Officer

Date

3/21/16